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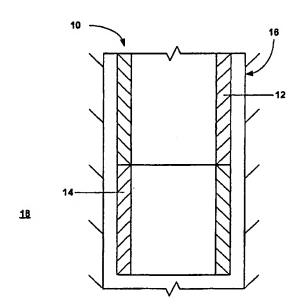
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: RADIAL EXPANSION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method of radially expanding and plastically deforming tubular members (10, 100, 200) is provided that includes selecting a tubular member, determining an anisotropy value and a strain hardening value for the selected tubular member (10, 100, 200), multiplying the anisotropy value times the strain hardening value to generate an expandability value for the selected tubular member (10, 100, 200); and if the expandability value is greater than 0.12, then radially expanding and plastically deforming the selected tubular member (10, 100, 200).

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Declaration under Rule 4.17:

- of inventorship (Rule 4.17(iv))

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/28642

A. CLAS	SSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER E21B 23/00(2006.01),17/00(2006.01)		·			
USPC: 166/380,250.01 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC						
B. FIEL	DS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 166/380, 250.01, 207, 382, 242.1						
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched						
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)						
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
X,B A	US2005/0217768 A1 (ASAHI et al) 06 October 2005 (06.10.2005), see the entire patent, in particular Paragraphs [0052]-[0072], [0079]-[0109] and [0170]. US 6,070,671 A (CUMMING et al) 06 June 2000 (06.06.2000), column 3, lines 10-28. 6-13					
			·			
	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.				
"A" document of particu	pecial categories of cited documents: I defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be alar relevance splication or patent published on or after the international filing	"T" later document published after the inte date and not in conflict with the applic the principle or theory underlying the "X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be consider step when the document is taken alone	ation but cited to understand invention claimed invention cannot be red to involve an inventive			
establish specified)	•	"Y" document of particular relevance; the considered to involve an inventive step combined with one or more other such being obvious to a person skilled in the	p when the document is a documents, such combination			
	referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent	family			
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the						
		Date of mailing of the international search				
08 May 2006 (08.05.2006) Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201 Authorized officer Floang Dang Telephone No. 571-272-3600						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US05/28642

	No. II	Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)	
This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:			
1.	\boxtimes	Claims Nos.: 1-5 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely: the claims are directed to a mathematical expression.	
2.		Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:	
3.	6.4(a).	Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule	
Вох	No. III	Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 3 of first sheet)	
This Plea	Internati se See Co	onal Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: ontinuation Sheet	
1. 2. 3.		As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:	
4.	nark on 1	No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee. The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.	

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(2)) (April 2005)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	PCT/US05/28642			
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BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING				
This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.				
Group I, claim(s) 6-11, drawn to a method of radially expanding and plastically deforming tubular members.				
Oroup II, claim(s) 12-13, drawn to a method of selecting tubular members for radial expansion and plastic deformation.				
The inventions listed as Groups I and II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: The special technical feature of the claims of Group I is the use of anisotropy value and strain hardening value for the tubular member to determine the expandability of the tubular member which is then selected and radially expanded. The special technical feature of the claims of Group II is the use of carbon content and carbon equivalent value for the tubular member to determine whether it is suitable for radial expansion and plastic deformation. The claims of Groups I and II lack unity because they rely on different special technical features.				
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International application No.